

away from the handle portion instead of the handle portion being biased relative to the tongue portion. Applicant has amended the claims to make this biased relationship clearer.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Fildan patent. Fildan teaches a lock that includes the elements recited in Applicant's claims except Fildan's mechanism also includes other equipment that are required to make the elements recited in Applicant's claims function. Applicant's elements do not require any further structures other than those recited in the claims in order to function properly. Thus to differentiate these claims from the prior art, and specifically the teaching of the Fildan patent, Applicant has changed the preambles of Claims 1 and 10 to included the terms "consisting of" instead of the term "comprising". These changes to the preambles of Claims 1 and 10 close the set of elements contained in those two claims and differentiate this invention from the prior art which would be incomplete if it contained only the elements recited in these two claims. Applicant has cancelled Claims 2, 5, and 6.

Claims 11-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten these claims in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation.

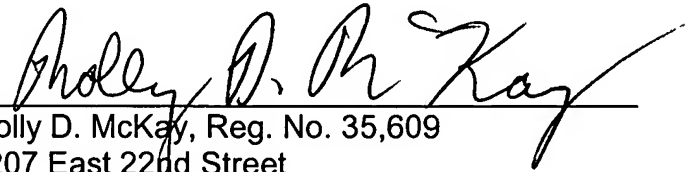
Also, Claims 3, 4, and 7-9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the above referenced rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Again, Applicant has rewritten these claims in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation.

Applicant has corrected the reference to Claim 6 that is contained in the preamble of Claim 8 to properly reference Claim 7.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to the deposit account of the undersigned, No. 13-0470.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Molly D. McKay", is written over a horizontal line.

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Enclosure

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